



Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology  
S.C. Health Alert Network  
1751 Calhoun Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

April 12, 2004

## **This is an official CDC Health Advisory**

Distributed via Health Alert Network  
April 10 2004, 16:00 EDT (04:00 PM EDT)  
CDCHAN-00196-04-04-10-ADV-N

### **Measles Among Adoptees from China: Potential Airline Exposure**

On March 16, 2004, 11 families from the United States traveled as a group to China to adopt 12 children. The group remained together for about 10 days during the adoption process. On April 6, 2004, Public Health - Seattle and King County, Washington reported a laboratory confirmed case of measles in a recently adopted child from among this group.

Measles is a highly infectious viral rash illness that can cause pneumonia, diarrhea, encephalitis, and death with an incubation period of 7-21 days. Infected people are considered infectious from 4 days before to 4 days following the appearance of rash.

Three children with probable measles were infectious while traveling from China to the United States on the following airline flights: United Airlines (UA) Flight # 862 from Hong Kong to San Francisco, Cathay Pacific Flight # CX 872 from Hong Kong to San Francisco, UA Flight # 476 from San Francisco to Seattle and UA Flight # 794 from San Francisco to Seattle. Persons on these flights who develop fever and/or rash on or before April 16, 2004 should be evaluated by a healthcare provider for measles.

Families from WA (7), AK (1), MD (1), NY (1) and FL (1) traveled to adopt children in China. As of April 9, 2004, of the 12 children that were adopted and traveled to the United States with their adoptive parents, 9 have developed a febrile rash illness including 4 who have been serologically confirmed to have measles. The other 5 are considered "suspected" measles cases and are under investigation. All the children are being evaluated serologically or being observed for symptoms of measles.

Adoptive parents should ensure that they and their families are appropriately immunized before traveling abroad for adoption, and should be aware of the potential for communicable diseases in children adopted from international regions.

Possible cases of measles-like rash illness should be reported to state health departments. State health departments are asked to report any possible cases under investigation to CDC (404-639-8680 or 404-639-8763).

For more information on imported cases of measles into the United States see:

[Measles Outbreak Among Internationally Adopted Children Arriving in the United States, February- March 2001](#)

[Measles, Mumps, and Rubella — Vaccine Use and Strategies for Elimination of Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Congenital Rubella Syndrome and Control of Mumps: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#)

[Measles — United States, 1999](#)

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Categories of Health Alert messages:

**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

## District Public Health Offices

Mail or call reports to the District Epidemiology/Disease Reports office in each district.

### Appalachia I

(Anderson, Oconee)  
220 McGee Road  
Anderson, SC 29625  
Phone: (864) 231-1966  
Fax: (864) 260-5623  
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-298-4442

### Appalachia II

(Greenville, Pickens)  
PO Box 2507  
200 University Ridge  
Greenville, SC 29602-2507  
Phone: (864) 282-4139  
Fax: (864) 282-4373  
Nights / Weekends: (864) 460-5355 or  
1-800-993-1186

### Appalachia III

(Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union)  
PO Box 4217  
151 E. Wood Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217  
Phone: (864) 596-2227 ext. 210  
Fax: (864) 596-3443  
Nights / Weekends: (864) 809-3825

### Catawba

(Chester, Lancaster, York)  
PO Box 817  
1833 Pageland Highway  
Lancaster, SC 29721  
Phone: (803) 283-3175  
Fax: (803) 283-0572  
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-867-3886 or  
1-888-739-0748

### Edisto Savannah

(Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell)  
1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40  
Aiken, SC 29801  
Phone: (803) 642-1618  
Fax: (803) 642-1619  
Nights / Weekends: (803) 827-8668 or  
1-800-614-1519

### Edisto Savannah

(Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg)  
PO Box 1126  
1550 Carolina Avenue  
Orangeburg, SC 29116  
Phone: (803) 533-7199  
Fax: (803) 536-9118  
Nights / Weekends: (803) 954-8513

### Low Country

(Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper)  
1407 King Street  
Beaufort, SC 29902  
Phone: (843) 525-7603  
Fax: (843) 525-7621  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-712-6586

### Palmetto

(Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland)  
2000 Hampton Street  
Columbia, SC 29204  
Phone: (803) 576-2749  
Fax: (803) 576-2993  
Nights / Weekends: (803) 304-4252

### Pee Dee

(Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon,  
Florence, Marlboro, Marion)  
145 E. Cheves Street  
Florence, SC 29506  
Phone: (843) 661-4830  
Fax: (843) 661-4859  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 660-8145

### Trident

(Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester)  
4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600  
N. Charleston, SC 29405  
Phone: (843) 746-3832  
Fax: (843) 746-3851  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

### Upper Savannah

(Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood,  
Laurens, McCormick, Saluda)  
PO Box 3227  
1736 S. Main Street  
Greenwood, SC 29646  
Phone: 1-888-218-5475  
Fax: (864) 942-3690  
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

### Waccamaw

(Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg)  
2830 Oak Street  
Conway, SC 29526-4560  
Phone: (843) 365-3126  
Fax: (843) 365-3153  
Nights / Weekends: (843) 381-6710

### Wateree

(Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter)  
PO Box 1628  
105 North Magnolia Street  
Sumter, SC 29150  
Phone: (803) 773-5511  
Fax: (803) 773-6366  
Nights / Weekends: 1-877-831-4647

### Bureau of Disease Control

Acute Disease Epidemiology Division  
1751 Calhoun Street  
Box 101106  
Columbia, SC  
Phone: (803) 898-0861  
Fax: (803) 898-0897  
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902